

In regards to news coverage, the public airwaves should be what cable news is not. The public airwaves should be free of bias, and promote thoughtful educated discourse in this country. The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer is an excellent example of quality programming. In truth, I generally think news stations do a fair job of covering stories that are important to us. I regret to see that sometimes, stations can be forced to carry programs that are not un-biased attempts to discover truth. I further regret to see that in our nation, documentaries fail to approach subjects in a cinema verite fashion, but instead are becoming more like propaganda films. I believe both of these instances are occurring as Sinclair Broadcasting orders its stations to preempt normal programming in order to carry an Anti-Kerry documentary/propaganda piece.

Station owners should be able to program what is appropriate for them, and the audience they serve. It is shameful that large media corporations get to determine which sort of propaganda the nationwide audience should watch. We encourage local control of programming. We should discourage corporations, or corporate boards from presenting documentary/propaganda disguising itself as informative programming. In this instance, this is tantamount to free advertising for the Bush/Cheney campaign. I thought public airwaves had to give the same amount of time to each candidate?